

mongrel dog can not be admitted into good canine society. A silk hat must not be worn with any kind of a coat. Every one of refinement is careful to have each article of dress conform to a certain scheme. In the army and navy an officer may on certain occasions wear either all citizen's clothes, or all uniform. He must not wear his uniform cap with a gray sack suit.

The same principle holds true with regard to cultivated taste in the formation of words. Just as one does not generally approve of racial mixtures, so good taste is offended by mongrel words which are the misbegotten offspring of linguistic miscegenation. Doctors seem to be the worst offenders in this matter. They know little or no Greek, but they miss no opportunity to work in what little they think they know in order to mystify or impress. They are devoted, for instance, to hyper and hypo in place of super and sub in composition with Latin stems. All doctors, I am told, say "hypersensitive" and "hypertension." This sounds more learned and is less likely to be understood than supersensitive and supertension. In fact, doctors seem to be quite "hyperstitions" about Greek and somewhat "hypercilious" in the use of it.

But some mixtures are admissible. Greek words have been thoroughly naturalized as Latin, and both Greek and Latin words have been admitted into good English society. The ending "ology" is an example. We even have roentgenology. Many are violently opposed to the anti-prohibitionists, but no one objects to the word. The advocates of "Shapometer" may find some comfort in the fact that meter seems to have been adopted as a legitimate English word. Originally Greek, it was first adopted into Latin and we have many Latin stems combined with it. In the metric system we have millimeters as well as kilometers. Then, as signifying an instrument of measurement, we have it in all sorts of combinations. In voltmeter and voltmeter the first element is an Italian proper name. We already have speedometer, why not shapometer? People might well be pardoned for using this last combination, provided they will refrain from accenting kilometer on the second syllable.

Many thousands of our boys went to France who had never used the metric system. There they encountered kilometer and naturally made it rhyme with the familiar speedometer. The sad thing is that many scientists have now fallen into this error. Soon we shall have centimeters and millimeters accented in the same way. But one is not easily surprised at any departure from linguistic orthodoxy when a learned scientist in your columns not long ago aired his learning by saying grandly "cacodorous"

and "polyvalent" for the perfectly nice words "malodorous" and "multivalent."

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### ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN SPAIN

DR. NONIDEZ' reply to my letter of April 15 is a typical example of "it depends on whose ox is gored." The case of nine Italian professors out of over twelve hundred who are forbidden to teach in state universities because they refuse to take an oath of allegiance to the state is an attack on academic freedom; the case of perhaps twelve hundred Spanish professors who are forbidden to teach in private schools because of a fictitious vow is not an attack on academic freedom.

I too received part of my education in Spain and know conditions there, but I had the good fortune to have been born and reared in the United States which is a republic in fact and not merely in name. I agree with Dr. Nonidez that "the suppression of the Jesuits with the advent of the new order was a foregone conclusion," but not for the reason he assigns. The Jesuit fourth vow has nothing to do with allegiance to a foreign power. It has a very specific object, and one only, and that is to go on the missions when commanded by the Pope as head of the Church. That this vow was a pretext to cover a gross injustice is shown by the fact that, unlike the communists of whom the writer speaks, the Jesuits were not deported as they should have been had they vowed allegiance to a foreign power, but only deprived of their right to teach and hold property.

The fact that the Jesuits were formerly exiled, even by "His Most Catholic Majesty, Charles III," is no excuse for "less severe" treatment by a so-called republican government.

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### DURABLE FILMS

THE Aristogenic Association is engaged in making records of the characteristics of men thought to be of great service to humanity. An endeavor is being made to make the records as objective as possible, *i.e.*, to present their own evidence. Therefore the motion picture, photograph and x-ray are extensively employed. Since it is desired to preserve a copy of these records intact for release at the end of a century, they must be durable. There is, however, some doubt as to the best methods of preserving them for so long a time. The usual sources of information are indecisive.

We should appreciate any useful data or suggestions.

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